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Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies

Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Letter dated 23 June 1998 from the Permanent Representatives of Turkey and Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the Ukrainian-Turkish joint communiqué, signed on 21 May 1998 in Kiev, by Mr. Süleyman Demirel, President of the Republic of Turkey, and Mr. Leonid Kuchma, President of Ukraine, during the official visit of President Demirel to Ukraine.

We should be very grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under items 33 and 96 of the preliminary list.

(*Signed*) Volodymyr **Yel'chenko**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Volkan **Vural**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary,
Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations

* A/53/50.

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Annex

Ukrainian-Turkish joint communiqué issued on 21 May 1998 in Kiev

At the invitation of the President of Ukraine, Mr. Leonid Kuchma, the President of the Republic of Turkey, Mr. Süleyman Demirel, paid an official visit to Ukraine from 21 to 23 May 1998. The President of Turkey was accompanied by a high-level delegation.

The talks between the sides were held in a warm and cordial atmosphere which reflected their traditionally friendly relations and highest mutual esteem.

The two sides reviewed the rapid development of their cooperation and partnership since President Kuchma's visit to Turkey on 27 and 28 November 1996 and expressed their common determination to further broaden and diversify their bilateral relations to the fullest extent of their potential and also exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual concern.

Both sides, confirming their adherence to the provisions and principles embodied in the Treaty on Friendship and Cooperation between Ukraine and the Republic of Turkey dated 4 May 1992, highlighted their profound satisfaction with the pace of development of their bilateral ties, which have turned into a major element in fostering regional stability, cooperation and prosperity, and also underlined their common will to give a new impetus and add new dimensions to the existing cooperative relations so as to reach a level of constructive partnership. Cognizant of the mutually beneficial nature of their relations, the two sides agreed on the importance of expanding and revitalizing the mechanisms of consultations in order to address the issues related to bilateral relations as well as regional and international questions in a coordinated manner.

The two sides welcomed the progress achieved in their bilateral cooperation, in particular in the spheres of economy and trade, and agreed that further efforts should be made to expand their cooperation by utilizing the dynamism and entrepreneurial skills of their businessmen.

The two sides agreed on the need to reinvigorate and enrich their economic cooperation through increased reciprocal contractual activity and investments.

Proceeding from the conviction that trade and economic cooperation is one of the major components of the Ukrainian-Turkish relationship, the two sides will continue to further promote their cooperation in such fields as transport, energy, science, machine building, communications, metallurgy, agriculture and tourism. Both sides decided to consider the possibility of increasing coastal trade and expressed their will to further liberalize their trade relations in accordance with their respective obligations towards third countries as well as their international commitments. Ukraine and Turkey will examine the possibility of concluding a free-trade agreement. Both sides decided to devote further attention to the activities of the Joint Economic Commission in view of coordinating and further encouraging economic ties between the two countries.

Both sides reaffirmed their readiness to further develop the dialogue and collaboration between them in the energy sector, with particular emphasis on oil and natural gas transportation, oil refining and electric power. In this context both countries will endeavour to cooperate on issues related to the transportation of Caspian and Middle Eastern crude oil to international markets.

Willing to enhance their contribution to international peace and security, the two sides agreed to deepen their dialogue on defence matters and to continue their cooperation in the military field at the bilateral level as well as within the framework of the successfully developing relations between Ukraine and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Being confident of the fact that terrorism, organized crime, illicit arms transfers and drug trafficking pose serious risks and threaten security and stability in the region, and thus require comprehensive cooperation among States, the two sides agreed not to allow in their respective territories any activities, directed by any person, group or organization, against the security, stability, national unity or territorial integrity of each other.

In order to implement more effectively the Cooperation Agreement on the fight against crime between the Government of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of Turkey, signed on 14 April 1994, both sides have agreed to hold the joint commission meeting at their earliest convenience.

Expressing their belief that the extension of human contacts constitutes an important factor in the Ukrainian-Turkish partnership, both sides will continue to promote cooperation in the humanitarian sphere by encouraging cultural, scientific and educational exchanges between the two countries on a regular basis. They will promote the establishment of direct links between both countries' municipalities, including the development of sister-city

relationships and the organization of exhibitions, fairs, festivals, etc. in developing a new relationship in the humanitarian field, both countries will consistently uphold democratic principles and values shared by the international community, in particular the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, including satisfaction of cultural and spiritual needs.

During the talks between the two Presidents, both sides expressed their readiness to further broaden the bilateral legal basis of their relationship, in particular in the consular field, including the facilitating of the visa regime.

The two sides will continue to take steps towards eliminating the aftermath of the Chernobyl disaster and will actively cooperate to that end.

Proceeding from a mutual resolve to strengthen the legal foundation of their cooperation, the two sides signed during the visit agreements and other documents encompassing various fields of cooperation.

The Ukrainian side expressed its deep satisfaction with Turkey's increasing contribution in the resettlement of the Crimean Tatars in their ancestral lands within the framework of a recently launched 1,000-unit housing project. The Turkish side, while reaffirming its commitment to complete the housing project, also proposed to appropriate a portion of the Eximbank credit to projects to be carried out in Crimea, which would stimulate economic activity and assist Crimean Tatars in alleviating the unemployment problem presently facing them.

The two sides reiterated their willingness to develop and deepen political cooperation between Ukraine and Turkey within the framework of international, European and Euro-Atlantic structures and mechanisms of cooperation.

Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the development of beneficial regional cooperation in the framework of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (BSEC). They expressed their strong conviction in this regard that the forthcoming BSEC Summit in Yalta (Ukraine) in June 1998 will contribute to the effective implementation of principles and ideas contained in the Declaration on the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, signed in Istanbul in 1992. The two sides consider BSEC to be an important factor and an effective means of developing the multilateral economic cooperation, which promotes all-European integration processes. Both countries agreed to maintain close contacts at all BSEC forums and to assist one another in all issues related to BSEC activities aimed at making the Black Sea region a zone of peace, stability and prosperity for all nations of the area.

Striving to promote further strengthening of confidence and security in the Black Sea region and noting the growing cooperation between them both in economic and political-military areas, the two sides expressed their readiness to consolidate and increase their efforts to promote transparency and predictability for good-neighbourly relations in the military field among all the Black Sea States. In this regard they welcomed the forthcoming multilateral negotiations on confidence- and security-building measures in the naval field in the Black Sea.

The Turkish side expressed its support for Ukraine's initiative regarding cooperation between the Baltic and the Black Sea regions aimed at reviving a historic trade route between the two areas. In this context Ukraine and Turkey believe that the forthcoming summit of the Baltic and Black Sea countries, to be held in September 1999 in Ukraine, will make a decisive contribution to the realization of this initiative.

Recognizing the irreversibility of changes in Europe in recent years, the two sides reiterated that the new security architecture of Europe should uphold the principles of indivisibility and comprehensiveness of security and should not give rise to the emergence of new lines of division to spheres of influence or regions with different levels of security. In this respect both sides agree that no State, organization or grouping should have any superior responsibility for maintaining peace and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area.

The two sides agree that the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) will continue to play an indispensable role in the security of the Euro-Atlantic region. Both sides will therefore work together to advance the norms and principles of the OSCE, based on sovereign equality, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and indivisibility of security, towards a more prosperous, democratic and undivided Europe. Both sides support a more active role of OSCE in addressing new risks and challenges to security and call for a more wholehearted approach on the part of all OSCE participating States to counter the threats of terrorism, organized crime, illegal migration, illegal or destabilizing arms trade and other threats of a transnational nature.

The two sides also exchanged views on disarmament and arms control issues as well as on joint efforts to strengthen confidence and security in their region. Within this context, they noted with satisfaction the agreement reached by the coastal States in the Black Sea on the guidelines for negotiating a regional process of confidence- and security-building measures in the naval field and called

for the early completions of these negotiations with a view to starting the implementation phase. The two sides also evaluated the current state of the ongoing negotiations in Vienna on the adaptation of the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe, with a special emphasis on the flank regime issue, and decided to continue their consultations and cooperation during the adaptation process.

Emphasizing the economic and strategic importance of the Caucasus, with its rich natural and human resources, the sides expressed their belief that the existence of stable, democratic and market-oriented States, secure within their borders and at peace with the neighbours, has great significance for the promotion of regional prosperity and cooperation.

The President of Turkey expressed his gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to him and his delegation during his stay in Ukraine and invited the President of Ukraine to pay an official visit to Turkey. The invitation was accepted with pleasure.

(*Signed*) Leonid **Kuchma**
President of Ukraine

(*Signed*) Süleyman **Demirel**
President of the Republic of Turkey